The Dallas Morning News

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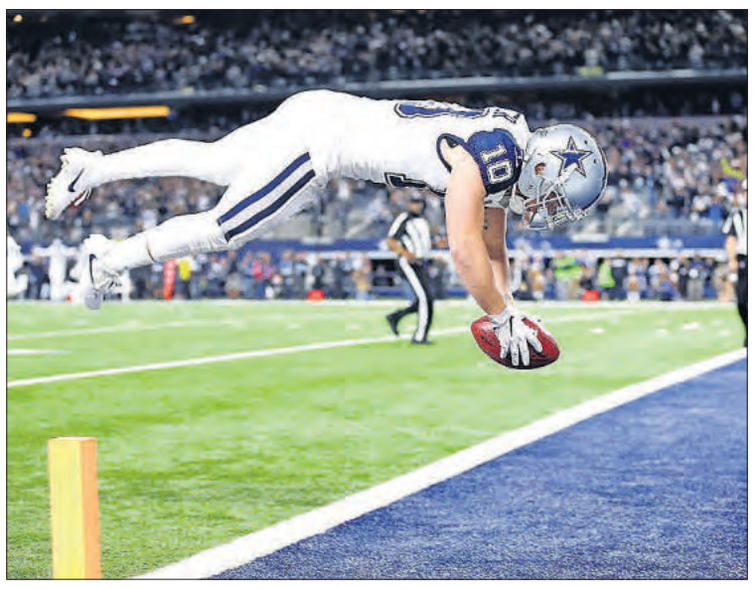
Leaps and bounds



Tom Fox/Staff Photographer

Cowboys punt returner Ryan Switzer dove into the end zone in a 38-14 win Thursday over the Washington Redskins. The victory halted a three-game skid, keeping the Cowboys' playoff hopes alive heading into the final four games of the season. **(SportsDay, 1, 8-10C)**

CONGRESS

Barton won't seek re-election

'It's time to step aside,' Ennis Republican says amid sexting scandal

By KATIE LESLIE
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WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Joe Barton, whose private life came under national scrutiny after sexual images he shared in an extramarital relationship were made public, won't seek re-election.

The Ennis Republican announced his retirement in an interview Thursday with *The Dallas Morning News*, three weeks after saying he would seek an 18th term next year.

"I've always listened to people in Texas and worked for them in Washington, and I've been listening to a lot of people the last week in Texas," he said. "There are enough people who lost faith in me that it's time to step aside and let there be a new voice for the 6th District in Washington, so

See **BARTON** Page 13A

Mostly sunny, mild

H 69
L 45

Metro, back page

BUSINESS

AA addresses concerns of bias
American Airlines outlines steps it will take to address concerns raised by the NAACP over the treatment of black passengers. **1D**

Rally pushes Dow past 24,000 mark
A broad rally gives the Dow Jones Industrial Average its biggest gain since March and pushes it past the 24,000 mark for the first time. **1D**

NATION

Report: Tax cuts add $1 trillion to deficit
In a new report, congressional analysts say the Senate tax-cut plan would add $1 trillion to the deficit over the next decade. **4A**

SPORTSDAY

A&M regents meet about coaching job
The Texas A&M board of regents meets to discuss the logistics of hiring its next football coach. **5C**

METRO & STATE

City staff accused of OT fraud, theft
Seven current and former Dallas city employees are arrested on allegations they put in for overtime they didn't work and schemed to steal city property. **1B**

OBITUARY

Actor known for role as Gomer Pyle
Jim Nabors, who starred as TV's dim but good-hearted rube Gomer Pyle, died Thursday. **7B**

INSIDE

Lottery	2A	Markets	4D
Nation	4,6A	Classified	6-7D
World	10-12A	Jumble	7D
Editorials	14A		
Sports TV	2C		
Autos	13C		

GUIDE Dear Abby, Hax, Movies, Television, Comics and Puzzles

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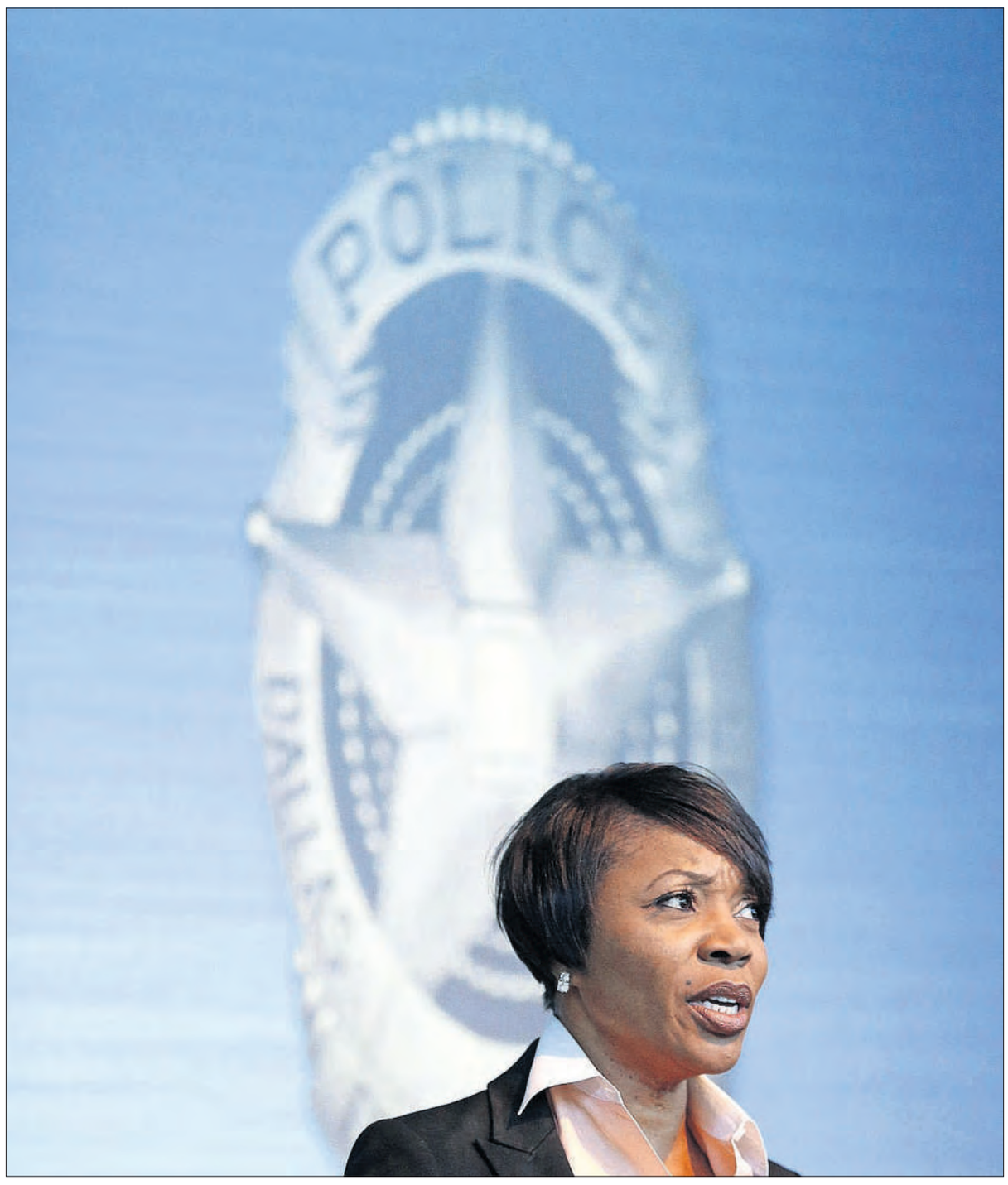
DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Top brass demoted as chief downsizes



Rose Baca/Staff Photographer

Chief U. Renee Hall unveiled a pared-down command structure Thursday at Dallas police headquarters. Some officers gathered in the back of the room to hear what the chief had to say about the plan.

Choices, including 2 finalists for her job, stun many

By NAHEED RAJWANI
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Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall has demoted several high-ranking officials, including two popular chiefs who were finalists this year for the job she now holds.

The chief's paring down of her leadership staff, which is responsible for running the department, is an about-face from Chief David Brown's expansion of the command staff during his tenure.

The department will now have three assistant chiefs, seven deputy chiefs and 15 majors.

It was expected that Hall would have to demote some people to fit her smaller leadership staff, but the names of those demotions came as a shock to many former and current officers.

"While the Dallas Police Association agrees the command staff needed to be reduced, several officers she demoted are among the most dedicated crime fighters in the department," the association said in a written statement.

Brown, Hall's predecessor, had nine assistant chiefs and more than a dozen deputy chiefs at one point last year. The police associations often criticized his large

See **POLICE** Page 7A

WASHINGTON

Tillerson ouster planned

CIA's Pompeo would replace him at year's end, officials say

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — The White House has developed a plan to force out Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, whose relationship with President Donald Trump has been strained, and replace him with Mike Pompeo, the CIA director, perhaps within the next several weeks, senior administration officials said Thursday.

Pompeo would be replaced at the CIA by Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., who has been a key ally of the president on national security matters, according to the White House plan. Cotton has signaled that he would accept the job if offered, said the officials, who insisted on anonymity to discuss sensitive deliberations before decisions are announced.

It was not immediately clear whether Trump had given final approval to the

See **PLAN** Page 3A

TEXAS CHURCH SHOOTING

Grieving kin blame Air Force

Lapse that let killer buy gun must be fixed, legal claims say

By LAUREN MCGAUGHY
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FLORESVILLE — At least three families are filing negligence claims against the federal government, arguing that the Air Force is responsible for the deaths of loved ones gunned down Nov. 5 at First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs.

Members of the Holcombe, Johnson and Ramsey families — who combined lost a dozen people in the shooting — have hired attorneys and could eventually sue the federal government if they're unsatisfied with its response. Several more claims, from other families of the

See **NOT ALL** Page 2A